

Amendments To Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A process for forming a nonwoven web comprising
 - a. providing a source of fibers;
 - b. subjecting said fibers to an electrostatic charge by passing said fibers through an electrostatic unit having a first side and a second side opposed to each other, wherein the electrostatic unit has an array of protrusions on both the first side and the second side of the electrostatic unit;
 - c. alternating the electrostatic charge from the first side to the second side and back to the first side; and
 - ed. collecting said fibers on a forming surface to form a nonwoven web.

2. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the electrostatic charge is generated between the array of protrusions of the first side and the array of protrusions of the second side and the array of protrusions of the first side and the array of protrusions of the second side are opposed to one another.

3. (Original) The process of claim 2, wherein the array of protrusions of the first side and the array of protrusions of the second side each comprise an array of pins.

4. (Original) The process of claim 3, wherein the array of pins of the first side and the array of pins of the second side are recessed within a cavity of an insulating

material such that the pins essentially do not extend beyond the insulating material.

5. (Original) The process of claim 2, wherein the fibers are provided by a melt spinning process and the fibers are substantially continuous fibers.

6. (Original) The process of claim 2, wherein continuous fibers are subjected to pneumatic draw force in a fiber draw unit prior to being subjected to said electrostatic charge.

7. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 2, further comprising deflecting the fibers with a deflecting device prior to collecting the fibers on the forming surface.

8. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the fibers are substantially continuous fibers provided by melt spinning and are subjected to pneumatic draw force in a fiber draw unit prior to being subjected to said electrostatic charge, the array of protrusions of the first side and the array of protrusions of the second side each comprise an array of pins, the electrostatic charge is generated between the array of pins of the first side and the array of pins of the second side and the array of pins of the first side and the array of pins of the second side are opposed to one another ~~one~~.

9. (Original) The process of claim 8, wherein the array of pins of the first side and the array of pins of the second side are recessed within a cavity of an insulating

material such that the pins essentially do not extend beyond the insulating material.

10. (Original) The process of claim 9, further comprising deflecting the fibers with a deflecting device prior collecting the fibers on the forming surface.

11. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein the electrostatic charge is generated by a series of at least two separate electrostatic charge fields along a length of the electrostatic unit, each charge field having an array of protrusions on at least one of the first side or the second side of the electrostatic unit.

12. (Original) The process of claim 11, wherein the array of protrusions of the first side and the array of protrusions of the second side each comprise an array of pins.

13. (Original) The process of claim 12, wherein a first charge field is generated by the array of pins on the first side of the electrostatic unit and a second charge field is generated by the array of pins on the second side of the electrostatic unit.

14. (Original) The process of claim 13, wherein a first electrostatic charge field is generated between a first array of pins on the first side of the electrostatic unit and first array of pins on the second side of the electrostatic unit and a second electrostatic charge field is generated between a second array of pins on the first side of the electrostatic unit and a second array of pins on the second side of the electrostatic unit.

15. (Original) The process of claim 14, wherein the first electrostatic field is generated from a potential on the first side of the electrostatic unit and the second electrostatic field is generated from a potential on second side of the electrostatic unit.

16. (Original) The process of claim 11, wherein the array of pins of the first side and the array of pins of the second side are recessed within a cavity of an insulating material such that the pins essentially do not extend beyond the insulating material.

17. (Original) The process of claim 2, wherein an electrical potential is alternated from the protrusions on the first side to the protrusions on the second side and back to the protrusions on the first side.

18-27. (Canceled).